

at Navsari. Our sighting of the House Martin must be the second record for its occurrence in Gujarat.

DIL BAHAR,
BHAVNAGAR,
April 12, 1967.

R. S. DHARMAKUMARSINHJI

[This is a rare and sporadic winter visitor from the Himalayas, chiefly on the western side of the Peninsula. In addition to Gujarat, as above, has been recorded from Maharashtra (Prakasha on Tapti R., W. Khandesh; Sinhgad near Poona), Madhya Pradesh (Sehore), Mysore (Haliyal near Londa; Belgaum; Shimoga), Madras (Coimbatore; Nilgiris, between Ootacamund and Coonoor), and there is a specimen labelled 'Travancore' in the British Museum collection. Apparently the eastern-most record is from Bilaspur, c. 22°N., 82°E.—Eds.]

11. WIRE NESTS OF REDVENTED BULBUL *PYCNONOTUS CAFER* (LINNAEUS)

On 14 October 1967, I came across three nests of Redvented Bulbul, *Pycnonotus cafer* (Linnaeus) with 10-15 day old fledglings, in the Hadapsar Industrial Estate at Poona. Two of these nests which were located in the large compound of a factory manufacturing electric motors and fans etc. were partially constructed out of fine copper wire (S.W.G. 34) generally used for winding of rotor and field coil of stator of electric motors. Almost 50% of the nest lining of these nests was done with this wire, which had apparently been picked from the heaps of discarded wire pieces in the compound.

So far only House Crows (Hume 1889 : 9 ; Baker 1932 : 16 ; Dewar 1929 : 27-28 ; Lamba 1963 : 125) and Doves (Walsh 1924 : 1055-1056) have been recorded to incorporate metallic wires and strips in the nest structure. The belief (Lamba 1967 : 154) that these unusual materials are used as an easily available substitute for the normal nesting materials and comparative scarcity of the same in the nesting area is amply strengthened by this find.

WESTERN REGIONAL STATION,
1182/2, F.C. ROAD,
POONA-5,
October 17, 1967.

B. S. LAMBA